KIM IL SUNG

FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN THEIR NEWS SERVICES

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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Speech at the Banquet Held in Honour of the Delegates
to the Seventh Meeting of the Coordinating Committee
of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries

May 13, 1982

Esteemed delegates, Comrades and friends,

The Seventh Meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries, which has been opened amidst the great expectation and interest of the progressive peoples and journalists of the world, is carrying on its work successfully, thanks to the sincere efforts of you, the delegates.

Our people are very pleased that their country has been chosen as the venue for the meeting, which is of great importance in developing the non-aligned movement.

I should like to extend a warm welcome to the representatives of various countries' news agencies and the international organizations concerned with news activities aimed at developing the non-aligned movement and promoting the common cause of progressive people, and I congratulate you wholeheartedly on the success of the meeting.

The seventh meeting has exchanged information about the successes and experiences gained so far by the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries and has discussed ways and means of furthering cooperation and exchanges between national news agencies. This meeting will, therefore, mark an epoch in the work of improving the role of the Pool still further and establishing new conditions of international news service.

The role of the news service is extremely important in the struggle to build a new society.

News services are the eyes and ears of society and the spokesmen of public opinion. Progressive news services defend and promote progressive ideas, thus enlightening the masses of the people and inspiring them to work for the building a new society.

In furthering the cause of independence from imperialism, it is very important that the non-aligned countries run their news activities through the medium of their national news agencies and develop cooperation and exchange in news services.

The Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool was founded in 1976 as an expression of the new trend of the non-aligned movement and in keeping with the urgent need for an information service for the non-aligned countries. This meant establishing a new type of cooperative news service system under the control of these countries, to champion and put forward the interests and aspirations of the people.

In the few short years since it was established, the Pool has developed into an authoritative press organization with affiliated news agencies from more than 80 countries. Its influence on the international scene is growing daily.

By working in accordance with the ideal of the non-aligned movement, it has powerfully inspired people around the world in their just cause of building an independent, prosperous new society, in opposition to all varieties of domination and subjugation, and has contributed greatly to the development of the non-aligned movement. Through its positive information services it has clearly proved its vitality and secured its place as a press force speaking on behalf of the newly-emerging forces in the international news service system.

This Pool and the news agencies of non-aligned nations have given a great deal of support and encouragement to the just revolutionary cause of our people, by widely disseminating the news of our people’s struggle for socialist construction and the independent, peaceful reunification of their country.

I should like to express warm thanks to the news agencies of the non-aligned countries and to their Pool, which have greatly encouraged our people’s revolutionary struggle through their

vigorous news activities.

The Seventh Meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries has been convened at a momentous juncture when the need has arisen to strengthen the non-aligned movement.

The present international situation is very complex and tense. Alarmed by the ever-mounting revolutionary struggle of the people for independence against imperialism, the imperialists are making desperate efforts to maintain and expand their supremacy. Going against the trend of the times, they are continuously carrying out aggression and provocation against the countries of the newly-emerging powers and using force of arms to repress the oppressed peoples who have risen in just liberation struggles.

Having openly declared a “policy of force”, the US imperialists are now working to put it into effect. They are trying to develop the military blocs and alliances they have already created and are, meanwhile, trying desperately to form new military blocs in Asia, the Pacific region and many other parts of the world. In particular, they are cunningly planning to divide and sow discord between the non-aligned countries and eliminate the anti-imperialist, independent forces.

Due to the machinations of the US and other imperialists for aggression and war, international tension is being aggravated and the danger of a new world war is growing daily.

The existing situation demands that the people of the world fight more actively to oppose the imperialist schemes for aggression and war and to make the whole world independent.

It will only be possible to prevent a new world war, maintain lasting peace in the world and achieve complete independence and prosperity for all countries and peoples, when the whole world is independent.

In order to achieve this, the non-aligned movement must be expanded and developed still further.

Non-alignment is a progressive movement which embodies the lofty idea of independence against imperialism; it is a mighty revolutionary force of our times which is in confrontation with imperialism. The non-aligned countries are advancing independently without joining any bloc, and the non-aligned movement is an independent political force made up of the countries which are outside the blocs. Today this movement is striking a heavy blow at the imperialists in their moves for aggression and war, precipitating their decline and disintegration, and it exerts an important influence on international developments and the revolutionary changes in the world. The expansion and development of this movement will provide a sure guarantee for checking and frustrating the imperialists' aggressive and warlike manoeuvres and for making the whole world independent.

In expanding and advancing the non-aligned movement, it is very important to improve the role of the Pool.

The news services of the non-aligned countries are a powerful weapon in the fight to expand and advance the non-aligned movement. Only when the role of the Pool is improved to enable it to carry on the news activities vigorously, will it be possible to expose and thwart the imperialists' moves for aggression and war promptly and encourage the peoples of newly-emerging countries in their struggle to build a new society. Increasing the role of the Pool is all the more urgent today, in view of the fact that the imperialists are intensifying more than ever before their reactionary ideological offensive against the peoples of newly-emerging countries and that the non-aligned nations are faced with the difficult yet important revolutionary task of building a new society.

All non-aligned countries must combine their efforts to improve the Pool's role and thus steadily expand and develop the non-aligned movement, brushing aside every obstacle and obstructionist move.

The Pool should adhere strictly to the anti-imperialist stand in its information services and concentrate its pen on the struggle against imperialism.

The Pool must use its caustic pen to strip bare the imperialists' aggressive nature and cunning moves for aggression.

Aggression and plunder are inherent in the nature of imperialism, and war is the means of its existence. By mercilessly exposing and denouncing imperialism's aggressive nature and cunning moves for aggression, the news services of the non-aligned countries will prevent the people from harbouring any illusions about imperialism and mould widespread public opinion against imperialists in every part of the world.

The Pool should strive to end the imperialists' monopoly and arbitrariness in the news service field and to establish a new international order of news reporting.

At present they are using large news agencies to monopolize news dissemination. The kept news services of the imperialists are stifling the righteous voices of the people and making false propaganda which distorts the truth. They persist in disseminating corrupt reactionary ideas which poison the healthy minds of the people. Unless the imperialists' monopoly and arbitrariness in news services are eliminated, we can neither develop the non-aligned movement nor achieve the cause of independence for the whole world.

The Pool must carry out its revolutionary news activities with vigour and thus thoroughly expose and shatter the imperialists'

slanders and their false, reactionary propaganda about the non-aligned movement and the revolutionary struggle of the people. When all the news agencies of the non-aligned countries resolutely combat the reactionary news services of the imperialists, it will be possible to destroy the old, anachronistic international order of news services and establish a new one which represents the interests of the peoples of the newly-emerging powers.

The Pool should contribute to the revolutionary cause of the peoples for independence through its news activities.

It is an important mission of the Pool to raise the people's spirit of national independence, increase their political consciousness and rouse them to the struggle to build an independent new world.

The Pool should publicize the brilliant successes achieved by the newly-emerging nations in the struggle to build a prosperous new society under the anti-imperialist, independent banner, as well as giving a clear picture of the non-aligned countries which are developing with every passing day. In this way the broad masses of the people will take an active part in the worthwhile struggle to build a new world, convinced of the validity of the cause of independence and a bright future. It should propagate the aims and ideas of the non-aligned movement widely, and zealously collect and disseminate information which is helpful to the unity of the newly-emerging countries and to the expansion and development of the non-aligned movement.

The Pool must efficiently disseminate information beneficial to economic and technical cooperation between the non-aligned countries. Every non-aligned country has one or more contributions to make in this regard. If they exchange them with one another, it will help greatly in building a new society. The news services of the non-aligned countries must ensure economic

and technical exchanges among these nations, and thus actively help towards the building of their independent national economies.

Success in news activities is guaranteed by a high level of ideological content and accuracy and by the speedy dissemination of information. The Pool should fully express the aspirations and requirements of the masses in its information services, and disseminate objective and truthful information promptly. The news services of the non-aligned countries should analyse and judge important international events correctly, as well as the trend of developments, and report them at opportune moments. They will thus play the role of leading and organizing public opinion along the right lines.

The Pool must work hard to develop exchanges and cooperation between the news agencies, of the non-aligned countries.

Only when they strengthen exchanges and cooperation in information services, can the non-aligned countries increase the effectiveness of this Pool and attain the strong unity and solidarity of the non-aligned movement.

The worldwide dissemination and propagation of information about the peoples of newly-emerging countries who are building a new society is a great support and inspiration to their struggle. The news agencies of the non-aligned countries should exchange information with one another speedily and make a great effort to report news of the struggles of other people.

In order to develop exchanges and cooperation amongst the non-aligned countries in their information services, it is necessary to form an integrated news service network by linking the national news agencies of each country. When they are integrated into an organized system, these agencies can handle information more accurately, disseminate it throughout the world more

quickly and prevent distorted imperialist propaganda. We consider it a rational means of forming such an integrated news service network to strengthen the existing regional redistribution centres on different continents and encourage them to play the role of branch offices of the Pool.

The non-aligned nations must strengthen their own news agencies, and also zealously help their fellow nations to develop their news agencies in the collective spirit of cooperation. Amongst these nations are some with up-to-date news agencies, some with excellent journalist training institutions, and some with valuable experience in information. If they develop exchange and cooperation on the principle of mutual accommodation, they will be able to solve successfully all problems arising in furnishing their news agencies with equipment, in training journalists and in all other work of building up the news agencies.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which regards it as its sacred international duty to endeavour to expand and develop the non-aligned movement, is also keenly interested in strengthening the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries. The Government of the Republic will strive to develop this Pool and provide every requirement so that the Korean Central News Agency can fulfil its duty with credit.

Under the banner of independence, friendship and peace, the DPRK Government will work hard to develop friendly and cooperative relations with the peoples of the non-aligned countries and all the progressive peoples of the world and to build an independent and peaceful new world, free from every kind of domination and subjugation.

I am confident that, through your strenuous efforts, success will be achieved in the information services of the Pool and in

expanding and developing the non-aligned movement.

Hoping that the Seventh Meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries will proceed successfully and bear fine fruit, I propose a toast: to the development of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries; to friendship and solidarity between the peoples of all the newly-emerging countries of the world; to the health of delegates from the news agencies of many countries and the representatives of international organizations to the meeting; and to the health of the comrades and friends present here.